

(d) The scientific research is proposed in the field of Atmospheric Sciences, Space Weather, Glaciology including Sea Ice and Marine Sciences.

(e) It is proposed to send the first team of Indian Scientists to Arctic region this year.

Mini Anganwadi Centres

***97. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:** Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Mini Anganwadi Centres in the country;

(b) what are the services provided through these Mini Anganwadi Centres; and

(c) whether the workers of these Mini Anganwadi Centres are being paid the same remuneration as the other Anganwadi workers and helpers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As on date, the total number of sanctioned Mini-anganwadi centres in the country is 36829.

(b) Earlier, only supplementary nutrition was being provided under the ICDS Scheme from the Mini-anganwadi centres. However, a decision has been taken recently to provide all the services under the scheme through Mini-anganwadi centres also.

(c) Presently, the Mini-Anganwadi Worker is being paid an honorarium of Rs. 500/- per month while the Anganwadi Worker is being paid Rs. 1000/- per month.

Committee constituted to check ragging

†*98. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA:
SHRI ABU ASIMAZMI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the direction of Supreme Court, Government have

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

constituted any Committee to suggest measures to check incidents of ragging in educational institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in the Committee's work;

(d) by when a suitable legislation is proposed to be enacted in this regard;

(e) whether Government are in a position to assure the Parliament that considering ragging as a serious offence, it will bring it to zero level; and

(f) if so, by when it would be possible?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (f) On the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, a Committee has been constituted under Dr. R.K. Raghavan, former Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to suggest measures to check incidents of ragging in educational institutions and to submit its report by 5th April 2007. According to available information, the Committee has visited Guwahati, Kolkata, Bhopal, Mumbai, Jaipur, Kochi and Chennai so far for interacting with various stakeholders. The Committee is expected to submit its report only to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and, therefore, the Government is not aware of the proposals under consideration by the Committee at this stage.

Generation, transmission and distribution of power

***99. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Electricity Act, 2003, whosoever is desirous of supplying power can set up a power generation, transmission and distribution system to enable the demand for power to be met;

(b) if so, Government's action plan to realize this scenario;

(c) the systemic hurdles that are not allowing this situation from being realized; and

(d) if the answer to part (a) be in negative, the reasons therefor?